

Message Text

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SUBJ : MAJOR PROJECT: UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION

REF : STATE 230840

1. RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENACTMENT OF UPE SCHEME IS BOTH FEDERAL AND STATE. GOVERNMENT HAS HAD CONSULTANCY WORK PREPARED ON THE SCHEME SINCE 1972. CONTRACT WILL BE AWARDED AND NOTIFICATIONS MADE THROUGH VARIOUS TENDERS BOARDS. EMBASSY WILL TRANSMIT INFORMATION ON TENDERS AS SOON AS AVAILABLE.

2. FEDERAL LEVEL ADVISORS AND DECISION-MAKERS ARE IN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION. THEY ARE: SOMOYE (PLANNING DIVISION), J.S. ATTAH (TEACHER TRAINING DIVISION), A. C. OKORO (PLANNING DIVISION). MINISTRY HAS, HOWEVER, EXPRESSED ITS DISPLEASURE TO EMBASSY OFFICERS OVER ITS OFFICIALS BEING BOMBARDED WITH TIME-CONSUMING RANDOM VIEWS OF FOREIGN SALESMEN. MINISTRY URGES THAT BUSINESSMEN HENCEFORTH FOLLOW APPROPRIATE PROCEDURES, I.E., RECEIVE AND REPLY TO OFFICIAL TENDERS.

3. ITEMS TO BE TENDERED INCLUDE BOOKS, CLASSROOM EQUIPMENT AND FURNISHINGS, AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS, AND MAJOR BUILDING CONSTRUCTION WORK.

4. AUGUST 27 SPEECH OF FEDERAL COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION AMODU CONTAINED FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON EDUCATION SECTOR PROJECTIONS: BY SEPTEMBER 1976, THE ENROLLMENT OF SIX YEAR OLDS EXPECTED TO BE ABOUT 2.3 MILLION. FOR THIS, AN
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ADDITIONAL 70,000 TEACHERS NEEDED. ADDITIONAL 2,000 TEACHER

TRAINERS REQUIRED ANNUALLY OVER NEXT FOUR YEARS. FMG SETTING UP NATIONAL TEACHER INSTITUTE TO UPGRADE SKILLS OF EXIRTING STOCK OF TEACHERS; OF 130,000 AVAILABLE PRIMARY TEACHERS, ABOUT 64,000 ARE UNDER-QUALIFIED. UPE WILL ALSO PROVIDE BOTH TEACHERS AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

PLANS ALSO TO ESABLISH A TEACHERS COLLEGE FOR THIR AND PROVIDE FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS. NEW METHODS OF PRESENTING TEACHING MATERIALS BEING DEVISED TO ACCELERATE LEARNING PROCESS (E.G., MODULAR APPROACH). GOVERNMENT IS SETTING UP A NATIONAL ADULT EDUCATION CENTER TO COORDINATE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES. EMPHASIS THUS ON EXTENSION OF FACILITIES AT BOTH PRIMARY AND POST PRIMARY LEVELS. ALSO NEED TO ESTABLISH SEVERAL NEW UNIVERSITIES, TECHNICAL COLLEGES AND OTHER HIGHER INSTITUTIONS INCLUDING 24 TEACHERS COLLEGES.
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